Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

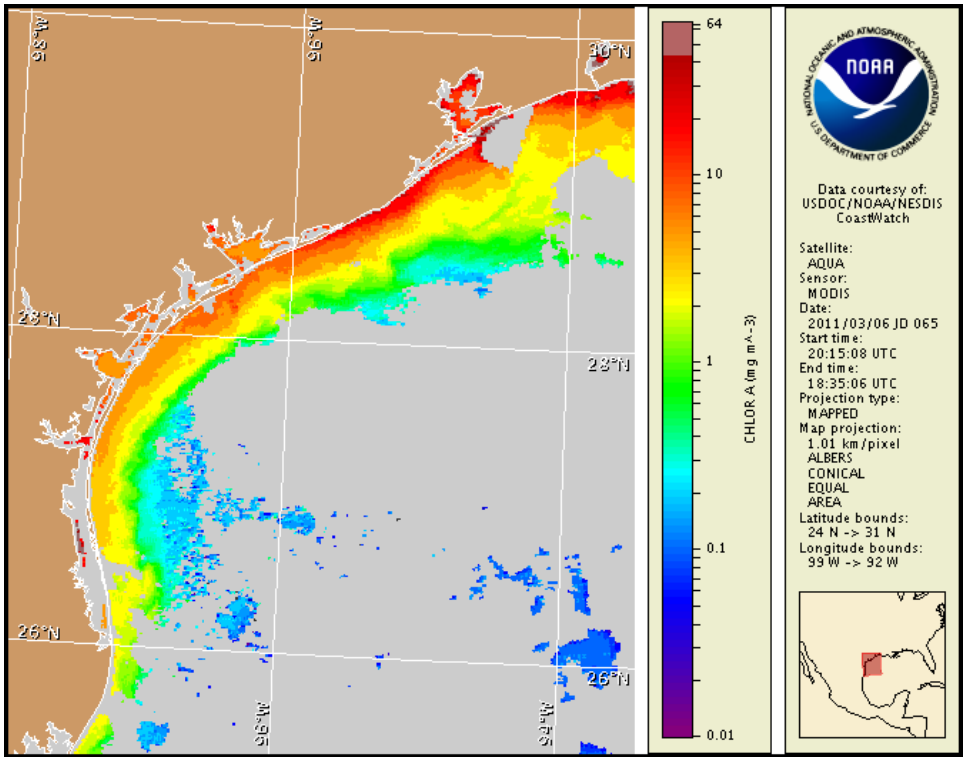
7 March 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: February 28, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 27 to March 3 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, March 13.

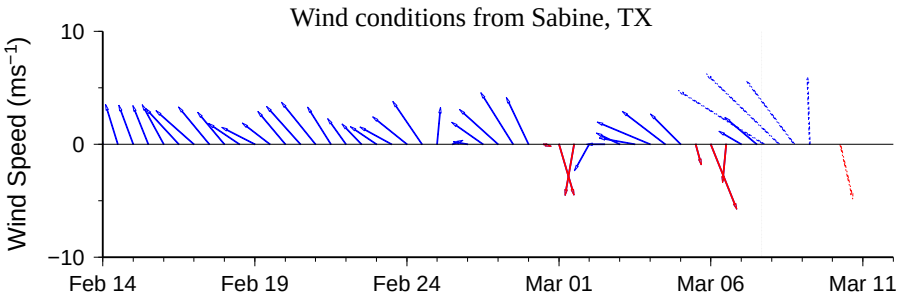
Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom along the coast of Texas.

Recent imagery is partially obscured by patches of clouds along the coast, north of the Galveston Bay region and along South Padre Island. High chlorophyll (>10 μg/L) is visible along- and offshore stretching from Sabine Pass to the Matagorda Peninsula, with patches of significant chlorophyll levels (>20 μg/L) still present along the coast from Sabine Pass to just south of San Luis Pass. Elevated chlorophyll (2 to 10 μg/L) is visible along- and offshore stretching from Cavalle Pass to South Padre Island. Much of the elevated chlorophyll seems to be due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments and is most likely not related to a harmful algal bloom.

Forecast models indicate a potential maximum transport of 30 km south along the coast from Port Aransas from March 6 to 10.

Kavanaugh, Derner



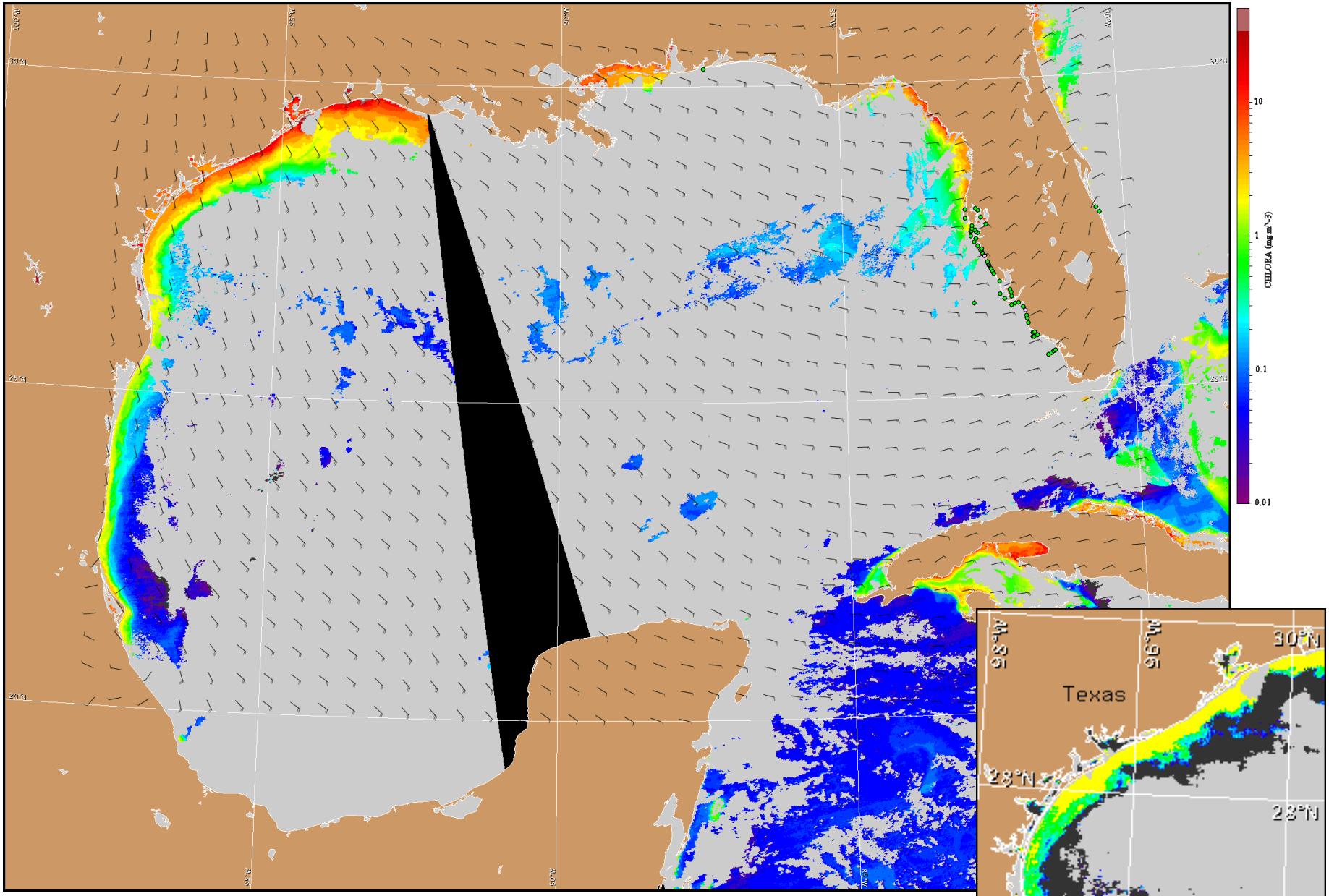
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

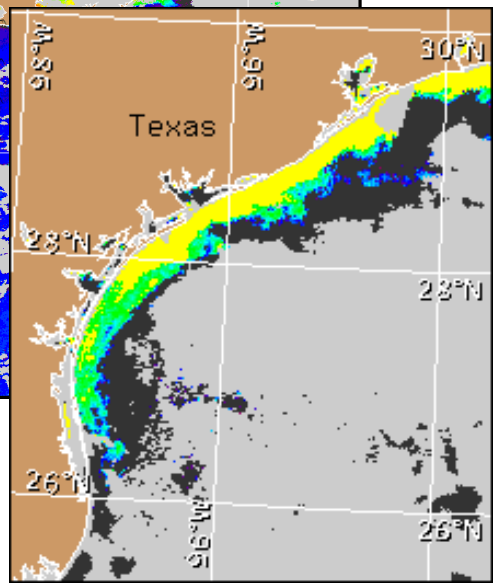
Port Aransas: Southeast wind (10-20 kn, 5-10 m/s) today through Tuesday night becoming south after midnight. North wind (20-25 kn, 10-13 m/s) Wednesday shifting northeast (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) through Thursday, then becoming southeast (10-15 kn) through Friday.

Wind plot for Port Aransas area is currently unavailable.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 8, 2011 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 27 to March 3 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).